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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by our guest chaplain, Robert H. Thune, Pastor of Coram Deo Church, from Omaha, NE.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, every one of us in this Chamber now—whether Senator, staffer, or civilian—is, first of all, a human being made in Your image. And so we pray.

Give us grace to acknowledge our limitations, admit our faults, and to affirm our fellow human beings despite our many differences. Let us always remember that to You and You alone, we must give account. Those who serve in this Chamber have been given a noble and weighty responsibility to seek and serve the common good of these United States. And so, as they attend to the work before them this day, grant them the wisdom of Solomon, the courage of Esther, the patience of Jeremiah, and the humility of Mary. May they be guided by Your providence and strengthened by Your common grace to fulfill Your purposes for this Nation.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 29, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. PADILLA thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to just begin by acknowledging and thanking Pastor Bob Thune for his opening prayer this morning.

It should come as no surprise, based on the last name, we are related. He is my nephew. I have been blessed through the years with a rich, spiritual heritage, as has he. His father, my big brother, was the spiritual trailblazer in our family. He went on to pastor churches in the Midwest, on the West Coast for about 50 years. His son Bob, my nephew, is carrying on that great tradition.

Bob pastors a church, as was noted, called Coram Deo Church in Omaha, NE. Coram Deo is Latin for "the presence of God." Bob, on a weekly basis, proclaims the truth of the gospel from the pulpit. But on a daily basis, he and his congregation have, at the center of their daily lives, the presence of God as they seek to have an impact on their community and their region and on this world.

Bob is, in many respects, as it says in the Book of Acts, fulfilling God's purpose for his generation. I am grateful for the spiritual heritage that we share, for the way that he continues that today. I want to encourage him in

his work and just acknowledge how grateful we are that he was able to join us here in the U.S. Senate and offer that opening prayer which, on a daily basis, is offered by our Chaplain, Barry Black, who has been a great inspiration to me on so many levels and leads us in a weekly Bible study here on Capitol Hill for Senators.

I always try and do an advertisement to get more Senators to come to that Bible study. It is a rich time where we can have an opportunity to reflect on the important work that we do and the way that our faith applies to it on a daily basis.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, yesterday, President Biden released the

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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